

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02

AID-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /051 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB:GBROBERTS:LRR

APPROVED BY EA - ROBERT H. MILLER

PM/ISP - MR. BRECKON

DOD/ISA - LT. COL. HAVENS

NSC - COL KENNEDY

S/S -O: P. JOHNSON

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P 241948Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACAF

JCS

SECDEF

USSAG/7AF

S E C R E T STATE 259379

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: FUTURE MILITARY FORCE LEVELS IN THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 18334

1. WE APPRECIATE THE CARE AND DETAILED THINKING WHICH WENT INTO THE PREPARATION OF THE EMBASSY'S PREFERRED WITHDRAWAL PACKAGE THROUGH THE END OF FY 76. WE ARE SURE THAT CINCPAC WILL KEEP THESE IDEAS IN MIND AS HE DEVELOPS THE THIRD OPTION REQUESTED BY JCS.

2. WE WERE NOT AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT THE THAI EXPECT CONSULTATIONS ON FUTURE FORCE LEVELS TO BEGIN AS EARLY AS
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DECEMBER. AS POINTED OUT IN BANGKOK 17942, THE CURRENT

INTERIM RTG APPEARS TO HAVE NO OVER-ALL DIRECTION OR PURPOSE EXCEPT TO GET THROUGH THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND OUT OF OFFICE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THEY WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS MATTERS WHICH WILL COME INTO EFFECT ANYWHERE FROM SIX TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS HENCE.

3. WE HAD THUS ALWAYS THOUGHT IN TERMS OF HOLDING OUR FORCES AT THEIR CURRENT LEVELS FOR THE NEXT THREE OR FOUR MONTHS WHILE WE WORK OUT OUR VARIOUS OPTIONS AND WHILE THE THAI CONDUCT THEIR ELECTIONS, INSTALL THEIR NEW GOVERNMENT,

AND GIVE THEIR NEW LEADERS TIME TO FIGURE OUT THEIR DESIRES. THIS THINKING WOULD RESULT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NEW RTG BEGINNING PERHAPS NO EARLIER THAN MARCH, AT WHICH TIME WE WOULD FULFILL OUR ASSURANCES TO CONSULT AND HOPEFULLY THE THAI WOULD COMPLY WITH OUR REQUEST THAT THEY TELL US WHAT THEY WANT. INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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